

Why I Have Never Married

By JAMES BRAINARD

I was engaged to Ethel Tucker, and it seemed to me that she was so delicate, so sensitive, so confiding, that I did not know whether to liken her to a porcelain vase or little flower. I felt the full responsibility of the care of one who, like sweet Alice in the song, trembled with fear at my frown. I had always been a man's man and used to striking without mercy at men who opposed me. Suppose I should forget myself after marriage and treat my wife in the same way. It would be like pouring boiling water on a sensitive plant. I should blight her forever.

One afternoon I called on Ethel with half a dozen roses—almost always brought her some gift—and finding the front door standing wide open, went in without knocking. I heard voices upstairs and, not wishing to interrupt the conversation, sat down on a sofa in the hall. A woman was speaking. I did not hear the voice before. She seemed to me to be an elderly person.

"Are you going to be one of those meek creatures who knuckle down to their husbands in every particular, or are you going to stand up for your rights like a true woman?"

"I am going to knuckle down."

"Very well; if you prefer slavery be a slave."

This was said with mingled contempt and indignation.

"Who said I was to be a slave?"

"Have you not just admitted it?"

I recognized Ethel's voice as one of the speakers and, not caring to be an eavesdropper, was about to arise to go where I would hear no more when the sentence was uttered, "I am going to knuckle down." I hesitated. What harm could there be in listening to the dear girl tell how she would defer to my slightest wish? I remained where I was.

"No," said Ethel, replying to the last question. "I have admitted no such thing. I am going to wind Ralph around my finger."

"Have you begun his training?"

"In a sense yes. If a woman wishes to dominate a man she must first tie him to her. How many marriages would occur if the man knew that the woman he was to marry was feeding him with sugar kisses only to snare him, after which she would proceed to assume her proper place as head of the house?"

"Oh, that's your game, is it? I didn't know you had so much stuff in you. When will you show that you intend to be head of the house?"

"Not at once, I assure you, but at our first disagreement, after marriage I'll insist on having my own way."

"You will wear him out, I suppose."

"Not then. I'll look hurt, but, and maybe I'll shed a tear or two."

"I see. How long will you keep that up?"

"As long as it is the easiest way."

"And then?"

"I'll go about looking as sour as vinegar. There is nothing so terrible to a man as his wife's sulks."

"Where did you learn all this?"

"Haven't I a father and a mother? Haven't I often been in league with mother to have our way with father? Suppose we wish him to take us on a trip. What do we do? A long while before we desire to start we make the proposition. It is refused. We keep up our appeals, or, rather, arguments, till we break him down."

My hair stood on end. I tried to go away, but a desire to hear more held me. There was some dialogue on ordinary subjects and then more that interested me.

"I suppose," said the elder voice, "that you will become one of Ralph's family—that is, you will be hand and glove with them."

"Not much. I shall do what all women do when they marry, at least all who know their interest—I shall proceed to separate him from them. A wife has the advantage of the right of invitation. I shall invite my own family, not his."

"Suppose he rebels at that?"

"I shall remind him that the good book tells a man that he shall leave his father and mother and all the rest of them and cleave unto his wife."

"I have often wondered why this duty was assigned to the husband instead of the wife."

"The reason is very plain. No woman would leave her family for that of her husband."

There was a brief silence after this, which was broken by Ethel.

"Men when they marry sooner or later go into the families of their wives. Did you ever hear of a wife going into her husband's family to the exclusion of her own?"

"Never."

"Did you ever hear, after the first rush of welcome, a husband's relatives speak well of his wife?"

"Yes, once. But the woman I speak of was a lovely character."

I had heard enough. Taking a pencil and a card from my pocket, I wrote on the card "Ta, ta," and placing it among the roses I had brought for my sensitive sweetheart passed out on tiptoe. As soon as I got safely out I ran like a deer. Stopping at my bank I drew the money for a trip, and at midnight was steaming on to the Atlantic ocean.

When I returned a year later I found among accumulated mail a card on which was written:

"Listeners never hear any good of themselves."

Evidently Ethel had found the roses and my goody.

WAITSFIELD

Waitsfield Stage to Run Through to Montpelier.

The Mad River Valley stage will run through to Montpelier every morning, beginning July 2, 1917, and will not wait for the 9:30 train at Middlesex.

The stage will leave the Montpelier house at 8:30 a. m. for Middlesex, Moretown and Waitsfield. Frank Bettis, stage driver.

—adv.

BETHEL

Engagement of Miss Gladys Wilson and Robert E. Bundy Announced.

Mrs. Guy Wilson gave a party Saturday evening to 14 young ladies and during refreshments the announcement was made of the engagement of her daughter, Miss Gladys Wilson, to Robert E. Bundy of this place. Both young people are graduates of Middlebury college in the class of 1904. Miss Wilson taught commercial subjects at Spaulding high school in Barre two years and then spent a year as teacher of commercial subjects in a United States government school at Mayaguez, P. R. Mr. Bundy since his graduation much of the time has had charge of the farm of his father, B. G. Bundy, and recently enlisted in Dr. William Stickney's ambulance company for immediate service in France.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Paul Kaufman of New Haven, Conn., were here Saturday and yesterday to see Mrs. Kaufman's sister, Mrs. M. M. Purdy. They are on their way to Plattsburg, N. Y., where Mr. Kaufman has an appointment as educational instructor for "junior Plattsburg" a military training school for younger men.

Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Gray of Bridgeport, Conn., were guests at the inn Saturday. Dinner guests at the inn yesterday included Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Brown and party of Barre.

H. G. LaBar of Water Gap, Pa., is here arranging for a heavy cut of Christmas trees in this vicinity the coming fall.

A. Henry Matson of Concord, N. H., a former resident, was a business visitor last Saturday.

Mrs. Thomas Lee and her daughter, Louise, are visiting relatives in Concord and Manchester, N. H., for a week.

Miss Ruby Abbey of Randolph is spending a week at Grover Bowen's.

Mrs. and Mrs. W. H. Parrott of Boston, former residents, are with relatives for a visit.

Mrs. J. Baxter Sargent of Tunbridge is visiting her daughter, Mrs. R. A. Pierce.

Frank Rice is recovering from a month's illness, during which he has been laid off from work.

A large crowd of townspeople and visitors from adjoining towns heard the street concert by Dewey's orchestra at the Bethel inn last Saturday evening.

Mrs. Mary Parker is spending the summer with friends at Ipswich, Mass.

Patriotic Sunday was observed at the Bethel Lympus Methodist church yesterday, a large audience being present.

A feature of the service was singing by Mrs. Gilmore W. Bryant and instrumental music by members of the Bryant family, several of whom are natives of that part of the town and formerly attended that church.

Julius Chamberlin of Area, Ill., a native of this town, is visiting his mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Chamberlin, who reached her 80th anniversary the day he arrived.

Charles L. Denmore of Concord, N. H., a former resident, is with his family at C. E. Clavin's.

Miss Lottie Denmore is spending the summer at George I. Wheat's in Barnard.

Mrs. Alice Sargent, Miss Evelyn Sargent and Miss Evalena Cornell of Woodstock, former residents, were with friends yesterday.

Mrs. Charles Morale of this village and Mrs. Ed Norton of Stockbridge are at the Greene sanatorium for treatment.

Mrs. Ida Cutler of Los Angeles, Cal., who is here for the summer, has been passing a few days with friends in Woodstock.

Stanley Miner of Brooklyn, N. Y., a son of Mr. and Mrs. George E. Miner, summer residents of Gaysville, is spending the summer at the farm of George E. Dearing.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Daniels of Boston are guests at the Beacon house.

John R. Patno of Co. H, V. N. G., was at his home in Stockbridge yesterday, returning this morning to Fort Ethan Allen.

EAST BRAINTREE

Miss Ruth Horner, who has been visiting her mother, Mrs. Mary Farnsworth, for the past two weeks, has returned to her home in Greenfield, Mass.

Miss May Cross of Springfield, Mass., and Mrs. Asenath Cross of Randolph are the guests of Stearns Hutchinson.

Mrs. L. F. Abel has returned home from St. Albans, where she has been visiting her daughter, Mrs. George Tupper.

Mrs. E. H. Smith and daughter, Erma, have gone to East Randolph to keep house for her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Kibbee, while they visit their son, Ernest, in Boston.

Mrs. S. L. Wheeler has returned to her home in Montpelier, after passing a week with her son, E. A. Wheeler.

Avis Lewis of Brookfield was the week-end guest of Miss Ethel Smith.

William Kent of Rochester was in town Saturday at the home of his brother, H. E. Kent.

Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Flagg have gone to Brooklyn, Mass., for an indefinite stay with their son, Lester. Their daughter, Gertrude Batchelder, accompanied them for a week's stay. From there she goes to Kennebunk, Me.

SOUTH WOODBURY

Miss Grace McKinstry, who has been teaching in Barre City, is spending her vacation with her parents.

Carroll, son of Morton McKinstry, is ill with measles.

Mrs. Alvin Ainsworth and daughter, Leah, who have been visiting friends here for the past few days, returned to their home in East Hardwick Thursday.

Miss Zelma Goodell, who has been teaching in Haverhill, Mass., for the past year, is spending her vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Goodell.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Goodell, Mrs. G. G. Hall and daughter, Doris, Miss Zelma Goodell and Henry Lilley attended the graduating exercises of the St. Johnsbury normal school last Tuesday.

Mrs. Powers of Marshfield is visiting her daughter, Mrs. Harlie Wheeler.

Rev. Morton Hale of Cabot was calling on the place Thursday.

Clarence Swain and son are living at the place which they recently purchased of Mrs. Emma Banks.

Alfred Goodell of North Calais is working for W. B. Goodell.

Mrs. Frank Kimball of Newport, Mrs. J. F. Darby and Mrs. John Kane of Worcester are spending a few days at Walter Copeland's.

Mrs. Vera Bailey of Bristol, Conn., is spending a few weeks with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Watkins.

GRANITEVILLE

A public dance will be held in Loosan's hall next Tuesday evening. Music will be furnished by Gauthier's orchestra. Admission, 50c; ladies free.

RANDOLPH

There will be a demonstration of canning and preservation of food at the high school building the second week in July. Miss Laura Smith of East Randolph, Mrs. Percy Rifford of South Randolph and Miss Helen Wheeler of Brain-tree will be the assistants of Superintendent G. W. Patterson. Miss Cobb, state demonstrator of Burlington, will be here to instruct superintendent and assistants. The methods of preservation demonstrated are recommended by the United States department of agriculture.

Corporal Merrill, and Private Luce from the fort are in town, where they are conducting a recruiting office at the Maple hotel. On Saturday, John Barron, Frank Tucker, Alton Hull and Leland Smith went in the morning to Burlington for examination, and in the afternoon Fred Lashua, Allen McMurphy of Randolph Center and Peter Pickles of Brookfield, for the same purpose.

John Butterfield and family from Windsor were in town over Sunday, with Mr. and Mrs. Dana Luce.

Miss Bessie Stevens, after passing a few days in Northwick, has returned home for a few days' stay.

Miss May Cross, who has been with her mother, Mrs. Asenath Cross, and her sister, Mrs. Jonas Coburn, for a week, left town on Sunday for her home in Springfield, Mass.

Miss Ruth Jones went to Shelburne Saturday afternoon, to remain over the 4th with friends.

Mrs. Roy Bragg, after a few days' stay in Watfield, returned home on Saturday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Chase went to Boston Saturday, for a several days' stay with their son, John Chase, and family.

Mrs. S. W. Howard, after passing a couple of days with her sister, Mrs. Rose Coolidge, in Royalton, returned home Saturday. Mrs. Coolidge has been ill for some time and does not seem to improve.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Ordway and children have returned from a two weeks' trip to Boston, where they were summoned by the serious illness of Mr. Ordway's father.

Mrs. George McCormack, wife of one of the telegraph operators in the station, was one of the principal witnesses in the Felch murder trial at Chelsea last week.

Robert Chedel, who returned from France, where he was connected with the ambulance corps, gave a short talk on Sunday night at the Methodist church upon his work while there.

Frank Parker and Miss Stebbins of Claremont, N. H., were in town on Saturday, the guests of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Beedle, and then went on to Stowe for a short stay.

Mr. and Mrs. Rand, who have been living on Weston street, will soon move to Wallingford, where Mr. Rand has a better position than he has with the O. J. Marrott & Sons' company.

Albert Larock of Sudbury is visiting his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. French, Saturday, coming here from Hancock.

Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Rood of Boston are passing the most of the time here with Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Sanborn, while he is looking after some business in Bethel.

Dr. and Mrs. H. W. Holden and Mrs. Ruth Sprague Freeman went to Boston Saturday by automobile to attend a wedding.

ROCHESTER

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cloran were in Burlington last week.

Dr. W. M. Huntington was in Burlington last week to attend commencement exercises and the reunion of his class.

Ralph Merriam is at home from U. V. M. for the summer vacation.

Wallace Bailey, who is at Fort Ethan Allen, is quite ill.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Campbell and daughter, Dorothy, and Charles Martin have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. George Cornwall of Bridgeport, Conn., making the trip by auto.

The Red Cross branch here has moved its work room to the Pierce Memorial hall.

Robert and Isabelle Noble spent a few days with friends in Middlebury recently.

Pearl Green and W. Perkins of Bethel have bought the Jesse Billings farm, possession being given July 1.

Miss Rachel Duffany is recovering from an operation for appendicitis.

Miss Beryl Wing was in Randolph last week.

Mrs. Celia Guernsey, 87 years of age, passed away Thursday at the home of her son, Flynn Guernsey.

HANCOCK

Ransom Dunham has returned from Middlebury.

The sawmill of Whittier and Smith, lately erected on the site of the one burned, has been doing work for a few days.

Eugene Perry of Bethel was a recent guest of his mother, Mrs. Lucy Perry.

Mrs. Ross Goodyear has returned from the Mary Fletcher hospital and is quite comfortable.

Miss Mamie Hubbard visited friends in Rochester last week.

Marie Dunham is visiting her grandmother, Mrs. Mary Riley of Granville.

Miss Lola Fifield has gone to Lake Dunmore, where she has work for the summer.

Miss Rita Fiske was in Montpelier recently.

Mrs. G. R. Church has returned from her visit in Lincoln.

Forty-seven new books have been added to the library, two being given by Will Stewart of New York City.

Will Blair is making some repairs on the hotel property.

Charles Maynard, an old-time resident of town, visited friends here last week.

WEST HILL NOTES.

Mrs. Charles Chapman and Ruth Wood entertained the ladies of the West Hill Sunshine club Thursday afternoon, June 21. Seven members and five visitors were present. Refreshments of sandwiches, wafers and fruit punch were served.

Herbert Lapiere left Saturday afternoon for New York state, where he will visit friends and relatives over the Fourth.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lafayette and Mr. and Mrs. George Lafayette and families motored to Fort Ethan Allen Sunday to visit Ernest Lafayette, who enlisted in Co. C. They found the boys all hale and hearty.

John Carey of Middlebury is visiting his brother, E. A. Carey.

GOOD ADVICE TO RUSSIA'S NEW GOVERNMENT

By Frank P. Walsh.

New York City, June 28.—In response to a request from the "Russian Weekly" published in Chicago, Frank P. Walsh, chairman of the committee on industrial relations, has made the following statement on the lessons and warnings that Russian democracy can gain from America:

We find after more than a century of constituted democracy in America, that we have the letter but not always the spirit of an inspirational and genuinely progressive form of government.

The constitution of the United States, following the bill of rights, promised much and has performed much, but stealthy inroads have been made upon its finer provisions, usually through bald legalistic sophistries, so that its substantial guarantees have been destroyed so far as the great mass of the people of the United States is concerned. The result is that democracy, as understood by many of us, has disappeared in great measure and probably will not return except through travail, suffering and finally a readjustment of our national thought to the sane and hopeful view that the well-being and happiness of all the people is the momentous thing in national government, and not the superficial and hollow prosperity of a few of us.

The hope of America lies not alone in the splendid struggle of the producing masses for justice, but also in the valiant and self-sacrificing spirit of the thousands who see clearly the menace to the republic which having independent means of living in many instances, yet are working against an order of things which insures them wealth and comforts denied to the countless majority. Throughout our land there are hundreds of intelligent and forceful labor leaders, students of government and so-called radicals, possessed of vision and courage, who are turning into the fight their personal abilities and fortunes to stem the tide of privilege which threatens to engulf our beloved republic. They work for that ideal through which democracy shall endure, and labor, the source of all wealth, shall reap the harvest which it sows.

New Russia should heed these plain lessons. America paved the way for a world democracy. It was the fulfillment of a glorious dream, dreamed by forceful and resolute men intent upon a newer dispensation that should bring the greatest measure of peace and happiness to all of the people; a flaming torch in the darkness of autocratic misrule. American democracy has not entirely fulfilled its prophecy. But it has helped lighten a world darkened by cruelty and injustice. Let the men and women of New Russia join the hopeful souls of our own country who vision nations encompassed by truth and everlasting justice and humanity between man and man, and trim the wick which will make brighter a world fast falling into the darkness of greed and callous selfishness.

New Russia has learned the lesson that life is governed at its springs and not at its flood. Where democracy has miscarried in America it has been subtle and unknown to all except the thoughtful and discerning. So far it has aroused but comparatively few and these the victims, usually of the insidious conspiracies against their freedom of thought and action. New Russia should strive to adjust its government at the start so as to eliminate and make impossible those features which have proved a menace to American freedom.

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The flavor of equality must never perish; equality of opportunity in life; equality in the profits of human effort.

New Russia should not permit life tenures in office, judicial or otherwise. Its first national charter should abolish and make impossible forever all forms of privilege. It should see that the peasants get the access to the land which they desire. It should own every means of transportation, communication and intelligence, leaving to private initiative only those channels which are not necessary to the comfort and convenience of all. It should carefully supervise profits; it should not allow corporations to have charters beyond actual investments, nor stockholders in business corporations to escape the full responsibility for every condition which surrounds the business or industry in which they are engaged. Its constitution should provide that no man should be deprived of life, liberty or property except through the finding of a jury composed of men and women drawn from the entire citizenry. It should deny its judges the right of punishment for alleged contempt of court committed out of its presence, or the disobedience of court orders, except after trial by a jury so constituted. It should make the passage of laws by the national congress or the assemblies of minor political divisions final and not subject to the review of any court. It should incorporate woman's suffrage in its constitution. It should exercise to the full its police power to conserve the health and well being of present and future generations. It should limit the wealth of any individual to a sum which would give him ample comfort and luxury and nothing more. It should provide for home rule to the absolute limit. It should allow all men and women to have and bear arms for their own protection and should prohibit private corporations and persons from hiring gunmen and armed guards. It should provide that labor must be represented upon every public board, of whatever nature, automatically.

In a recent article I made bold to offer seven suggestions for ameliorating industrial conditions in the United States and looking toward the strengthening of democracy in the republic. They may be useful in a suggestive capacity. They will, at least, arouse thought and criticism. Scintillating, they are:

1. That the supreme courts of the United States and of the several states should at once abdicate the autocratic powers they usurp of declaring laws passed by the representatives of the people to be null and void.
2. That a general amnesty be declared liberating all prisoners of industrial wars now confined in jails and penitentiaries of the nation. The number of these is appalling and nearly all were imprisoned on trumped up charges following industrial conflicts.
3. That thereafter no man shall have been held to have lost his liberty or property unless all questions of fact in his case shall have been considered by a jury of his peers democratically selected from among all the people in the district in which the trial is held.
4. That laws should be enacted making it a criminal offense to discharge

workers because they belong to or join labor organizations.

5. That the trade commission shall declare any corporation or manufacturing concern guilty of unfair competition in trade unless it has contractual relations with organizations of its workers democratically selected along the lines of present labor unions and with which contracts governing wages, hours and working conditions are made.
6. That no person be allowed to work more than eight hours a day, six days a week, for wages.
7. That the tariff commission withdraw the benefits of the tariff from any articles manufactured by firms which do not have contractual relations with their workers, with organizations of unions, or other labor organizations in which hours, wages and working conditions are stipulated.

Big Bells.

The big bell at Moscow weighs 202 tons, and next in size comes a Burmese bell weighing 117 tons.

Impatience and pride have destroyed more souls than wickedness.—Mazzini.

Horse Chestnuts.

Certain chemists are endeavoring to adapt the horse chestnut to the human dietary. The nuts are more than half starch and sugar, with some proteid and fat, and are nutritious. Their value chiefly depends on the elimination of the bitter elements and the irritating saponin-like glucosides.

Supersterny.

Little Jane and Josephine were busily engaged in helping mother dry the dinner dishes.

"But, Jane, you didn't get that plate dry," objected her sister.

"Yes, I did!" exclaimed Jane eagerly. "I dried it so hard that it perspired."—New York Times.

Ocean Currents. There are twenty-seven permanent currents in the oceans of the world, and there are nearly as many more of the semi-permanent variety existing at one time. Several causes tend to originate and maintain these drifts. Uniformly directed winds have the greatest influence, and differences of temperatures, storms, polar ice and eddies have each some effect, creating usually the currents of semi-permanent variety.

Once Was Enough.

Mrs. McLap was about to pull off a social for the benefit of the Civic club. "Are you going to invite Mrs. Next-door?" asked her niece.

"I should say not!" answered the old lady. "I entertained her once, and she never recuperated."



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